

## ABSTRACT

sub B<sup>3</sup> The present invention relates to undifferentiated human embryonic stem  
5 cells, methods of cultivation and propagation, production of differentiated cells  
and in particular the production of human ES capable of yielding somatic  
differentiated cells *in vitro*, as well as committed progenitor cells capable of  
giving rise to mature somatic cells and uses thereof.

In one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a purified  
10 preparation of undifferentiated human embryonic stem cells capable of  
proliferation *in vitro*.

In another aspect, there is provided a somatic cell differentiated *in vitro*  
from an undifferentiated embryonic stem cell. There is also provided a  
committed progenitor cell capable of giving rise to mature somatic cells.

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